

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 31 and ending on page 2, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

This object is accomplished by means of a stator core ~~according to claim 1~~, by means of a core back ~~according to claim 9~~ and by means of a method of producing a stator core ~~according to claim 16~~. Preferred embodiments of the invention are disclosed in the dependent claims.